

REMARKS

The Notice of Allowance mailed December 17, 2009 has been received and carefully noted. The pending claims have been allowed.

Further to the Examiner's Amendment, claims 11, 16, and 18 have been amended herein. A listing of claims can be found on pages 2-7 of this Response.

Applicants's attorney of record, Olivia J. Tsai, spoke with Examiner Crawford via telephonic communication on January 6, 2010. Examiner Crawford stated that she would enter the above claim amendments that merely correct potential issues of minor informality and subsequently reissue a new Notice of Allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be useful in moving the case forward, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Dated: 7 Jan. 2010



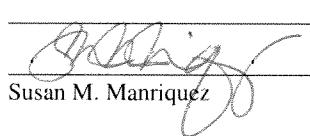
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Susan M. Manriquez

1/7/2010